Repealing JPM Act

1395. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that since the enactment of Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987, Government is imposing absolute reservation for jute packaging for foodgrain and sugar instead of diluting the same;

(b) whether Government is also aware that the import of jute bags is increasing in case of shortage of jute in the country after the decision taken by Government to reserve 100 per cent of foodgrain and sugar to be packaged in jute packing material; and

(c) whether Government is considering to repeal the JPM Act, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Government has not imposed absolute reservation for packaging for foodgrains and sugar since enactment of Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987. The reservation was diluted in the years 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 & 2005 for sugar and in the years 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2004 for foodgrain. Beside that, the order issued under JPM Act, 1987 provides that in case of shortage or disruption of supply of jute packaging material, Ministry of Textiles may in consultation with the user Ministries concerned relax the provisions upto a maximum of 20% for foodgrains and sugar respectively.

(b) There is no co-relation between import of jute bags and provisions under JPM Act because use of imported jute bags for packing foodgrains and sugar under JPM Act, 1987, is not permissible.

(c) No, Sir.

Houses at subsidized rates for textile workers

1396. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to construct houses for textile workers at subsidized rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no existing scheme to construct houses for textile workers at subsidized rates.

12.00 NOON

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. Notifications of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

II. Report and Accounts (2006-07) of the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi and related papers.